



**Department of
Environmental Protection
Bureau of Land & Water Quality Nov. 2000**

O&M Newsletter

A monthly newsletter for wastewater discharge licensees, treatment facility operators, and associated persons

Upcoming Training Courses

Nov. 15, 16 & 17, 2000 in Westbrook, ME, WW Collection Systems w/ Optional Exam - approved for 13 hours, sponsored by JETCC (207) 767-2649.

November 28, 2000 in Augusta, ME, High Flow Management - approved for 6 hours, sponsored by JETCC (207) 767-2649.

December 5, 2000 in Ellsworth, ME, Polymer Sealant Repair & Preventive Maintenance Systems Applications in WWTF's & Pump Stations - approved for 6 hours, sponsored by JETCC (207) 767-2649.

December 5 & 6, 2000 in Freeport, ME, Annual Statewide Technical Conference, Exhibition and Meeting – various sessions approved for up to 8.75 hours, sponsored by MRWA (207) 729-6569.

December 7, 2000 Augusta, ME, Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP) - approved for 6 hours, sponsored by JETCC (207) 767-2649.

December 12, 2000 Scarborough Laboratory Quality Control & Quality Assurance - approved for 6 hours, sponsored by JETCC (207) 767-2649.

**Mercury Progress Report
Survey**

Just a reminder. The survey was mailed on November 8th and I would appreciate you taking a couple of minutes to fill out and return it before November 24th.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sterling Pierce

For Practice

1. What is the best long-term fix for high F/M sludge bulking?
 - a. Add chlorine to the RAS.
 - b. Decrease sludge wasting.
 - c. Increase sludge wasting.
 - d. Reduce sludge age.
2. How would you reduce the growth of bacteria in a filter bed?
 - a. Adjust the pH
 - b. Backwash more frequently
 - c. Pre-chlorinate
 - d. Slow the rate of filtration
3. If the feed time for sludge centrifuge operated in a batch mode is less than the optimum time,
 - a. a better centrate will result
 - b. a better effluent quality will result
 - c. a dryer discharge solid will result
 - d. a wetter discharge solid will result

4. Determine the solids loading on a floatation unit if the flow is 0.8 MGD and the influent suspended solids are 1,500 mg/l

- a. 8,867 lb/day
- b. 9,312 lb/day
- c. 10,000 lb/day
- d. 12,346 lb/day

Dick Darling

Spring Certification Exam Notice

Note that the Spring certification exam will be given on May 16, 2001.

Applications for that exam must be **postmarked by March 31, 2001**

Applications that are received by us after April 4, 2001 will be held over until the Fall, 2001 exam. This fall, we had way too many people send in application after the deadline. The rules say "Completed applications with all supporting documentation must be received at least **6 weeks prior** to the examination date." This allows us to process the applications and order the appropriate number of tests for the exam. Please get your applications in by the deadline!!

Training Reminder

Please remember that operators who have odd numbered certificates must renew their certification in March of 2001. To renew your certification, you must have 18 contact hours of training since your last renewal. There are many training opportunities available through JETCC, MRWA, NEIETC and other trainers so there is little excuse for not completing your training requirement on time. Any training opportunities that we are aware of are noted in this newsletter

every month. **Please Plan Ahead!**

Look over the schedule posted in this newsletter and sign up for the courses you need now!!

Dick Darling

Answers to For Practice:

- 1. b While chlorinating the RAS may give some short-term relief for high F/M bulking, the real cause of the bulking is too little MLVSS. If you decrease wasting, you will increase the amount of sludge in the system and the high F/M filaments should decrease.
- 2. c Pre-chlorination to disinfecting the filter bed is the only way to reduce bacterial growth.
- 3. d If the feed time is too short, the feed rate may be too high. This can cause the discharged solids to be wetter.
- 4. c Solids Loading = $0.8 \text{ MGD} \times 1500 \text{ mg/l} \times 8.34 = 10,008 \text{ lb/day}$

Dick Darling



Happy Thanksgiving!!!!